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Commission, and many others. Appendices contain the names of all clergymen deprived for any reason whatever during the six years 1558-64. The names are copied from extant episcopal registers and other contemporary official documents.

The conclusions reached are that the Court of High Commission does "not appear to have carried out its powers of punishment and deprivation with much rigor;" "no great diligence was used to enforce subscription" by the Royal Visitation Commission; "even the severe penal laws of 1563 were not rigorously pressed;" not many more than two hundred of the entire clergy of England were actually deprived in the six years under review. If one is disposed to dispute these conclusions, he must make his reckoning with the contemporary official records.

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SOCINIANEN EN DOOPSGEZINDEN. Doopsgezinde Historiën uit de jaren 1559-1626. Door W. J. VAN DOUWEN. Leiden: S. C. Van Doesburgh, 1898. Pp. iv+188. Fl. 1.50.

THIS is a contribution to the church history chiefly of certain portions of the Netherlands during the years mentioned. The past contains the germs of the present. Present facts and conditions are the outgrowth of facts and conditions in the far-distant past. The enlightenment and toleration of our age are not isolated, unconnected phenomena, which have sprung up and come to light suddenly, without proper antecedents. They are plants of slow growth that have their roots in the past. They have grown up in the midst of turmoil and conflict. We shall appreciate them better if we know something of the destructive influences and unfavorable circumstances with which these plants have had to struggle. To indicate something of the history of that conflict in which bigotry and intolerance and persecution have gradually yielded to reason and light and toleration is the purpose of this little book.

The history and doctrinal teachings of the Socinians are sympathetically delineated. Standing alone, hunted, persecuted by Romanists and Lutherans and Calvinistic Protestants alike, they turned pathetically in the only direction in which appreciation and the comfort of human companionship and coöperation seemed to be possible for them—to the Baptists of Holland. Something of the history of the Baptists in Holland is then given—the various disputes and contentions by which

this little sect was torn, and the result of the overtures made to them by the Socinians.

Deep religious feeling there was doubtless in those days; the earnestness and intensity that made men willing to die for the faith. But at the same time there were narrowness, bigotry, and a pettiness and quarrelsomeness which vented itself on the most absurdly inadequate causes. The spirit of the times showed itself especially in the fierceness and fanaticism with which church discipline was exercised, especially in the communion of the Baptists. To this fierceness and fanaticism modern laxness forms a somewhat regrettable, but perfectly natural, contrast.

As we read of the troubles of both Socinians and Baptists, we cannot help feeling how lamentable in those days was the condition of those who happened to differ with their neighbors on religious questions, how pathetic was the sense of theological isolation with which they had to contend, and how much the present world with its freedom, and its sympathetic coöperation for practical ends of even widely separated creeds, owes to the pioneers of liberty of thought and toleration of religious belief in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

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MARTIN VON GERSTMANN, Bischof von Breslau: Ein Zeit- und Lebensbild aus der schlesischen Kirchengeschichte des XVI. Jahrhunderts. Von DR. J. JUNGnitz, geistlicher Rat und Direktor des fürstbischöflichen Diözesanarchivs in Breslau. Mit einem Bilde Gerstmanns. Breslau: G. P. Adersholz' Buchhandlung, 1898. Pp. viii + 535. M. 5.60.

DR. JUNGnitz is director of the diocesan archives at Breslau. That there is a congruity between his station and his genius his publications attest. These, by their frequency, show his pleasure in antiquarian research, and by their vivid accuracy his ability to combine facts extracted from dusty corners into living pictures.

Silesia has long been a "debatable land." Breslau, since the middle of the eleventh century the seat of an important bishopric, has been the center of its eventful history. Here, in the sixteenth century, within the shadow of its venerable cathedral, Lutheran and Romanist strove under such conditions that the issue was a long, a doubtful, and in the end a drawn battle. Where a struggle thus 'stands upon razor's edge,' the temper of the contestants is revealed.